Message Text

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ARA-16 DRC-01 /187 W

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R 191048Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6016

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CB, TH

SUBJ: CHARUNPHAN ON LONG BORET'S VISIT

REF: BANGKOK 13304

FOREIGN MINISTER CHARUNPHAN ITSRANGKUN NA AYUTTHAYA HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE AUGUST 14. FOLLOWING IS AN UNOFFICIAL USIS TRANSLATION OF CHARUNPHAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE DISCUSSED LONG BORET'S VISIT TO THAILAND. BEGIN TEXT

CHARUNPHAN: YOU MOST PROBABLY FEEL INTEREST OVER THE PRESENT VISIT OF PREMIER LONG BORET OF CAMBODIA. THE FIRST SUBJECT ON WHICH HE SPOKE AT THE MEETING HELD HERE TODAY WAS TO EXPRESS THANKS TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT FOR VARIOUS FORMS OF COOPERATION GIVEN IN THE PAST. THIS WAS WHY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CAMBODIA SENT UNCLASSIFIED

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PREMIER LONG BORET TO EXPRESS THANKS TO THE PRIME

MINISTER FOR THE AID AND COOPERATION GIVEN CAMBODIA IN THE PAST, IN THE FORM OF SELLING RICE TO CAMBODIA AND FOR SUPPORTING IT IN THE UNITED NATIONS LAST YEAR.

THE SECOND SUBJECT WHICH PREMIER LONG BORET INFORMED THE PRIME MINISTER OF WAS THAT HE HAD COME TO EXPLAIN THE OBJECTIVE IN THE PROPOSAL TO RESTORE PEACE TO CAMBODIA. THIS WILL TAKE SOME TIME, BECAUSE THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT IS GAINING STEADILY INCREASING MILITARY ADVANTAGES IN THE FIGHTING. IN SPITE OF THIS, THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT'S VIEW IS THAT IN ORDER TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE OR TO PREVENT FURTHER LOSS OF LIFE IT WISHES TO FIND A WAY FOR AGREEMENT TO BE REACHED AND FOR TALKS TO BE HELD TO END THE FIGHTING WITH NO CONDITIONS WHATSOEVER BEING SPECIFIED. AS ALL OF YOU MOST PROBABLY KNOW ALREADY, THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT MADE A PROPOSAL LAST YEAR TO RESTORE PEACE, BUT IT SPECIFIED A LARGE NUMBER OF CONDITIONS. BUT THIS TIME, ON JULY 9 THIS YEAR, IT ISSUED AN ANNOUNCEMENT INVITING ALL FACTIONS OR SIDES WHICH ARE FIGHTING TO TURN TOWARD ONE ANOTHER AND TO HOLD TALKS WITH NO CONDITIONS WHATSOEVER ATTACHED. WHEN WE ASKED HIM WHAT RESULTS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED AND WHAT PROGRESS MADE. HE INFORMED US THAT NO RESULTS IN ANY WAY HAVE BEEN OBTAINED YET. UP TO THE PRESENT, ONLY PRINCE SIHANOUK HAS REPLIED, REJECTING THE PROPOSAL. THIS MOVE MADE BY THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT IN AN EFFORT TO RESTORE PEACE IS A MOVE ON WHICH IT WISHES TO INFORM VARIOUS COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, PREMIER LONG BORET SAID THAT HE HAS COME TO EXPLAIN IT TO THAILAND NOW AND HE WILL GO AND GIVE SIMILAR EXPLANATIONS TO OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO, IN ORDER TO INFORM THEM THAT THE TRUE OBJECTIVE OF THIS PROPOSAL FOR TALKS TO BE HELD IS IN ORDER TO LEAD TO AND RESTORE PEACE. IF REGARDED FROM THE ANGLE OF HUMANITARIANISM OR FROM THE ANGLE OF PEACE AND QUIET FOR THIS REGION, THAILAND WOULD BENEFIT SHOULD THE PROPOSED TALKS BE HELD. THEREFORE, AS SOON AS THIS PROPOSAL WAS REPORTED IN THE NEWS, I REMEMBER THAT THE SPOKESMAN OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS--KHUN PRACHA KHUNAKASEM--MADE A STATEMENT AT ONCE INFORMING REPORTERS OF THE PROPOSAL.

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THIRD, PREMIER LONG BORET HAS COME TO MAKE A REQUEST TO THE THAI GOVERNMENT, THROUGH OUR PRIME MINISTER, FOR THAILAND'S SUPPORT IN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WHICH WILL BE CONVENED SOON. THE PRIME MINISTER ACCEPTED THE REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION. IN OTHER WORDS, HE REPLIED THAT HE WILL ENTRUST THAILAND'S DELEGATION WHICH WILL GO TO ATTEND THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR TO TAKE THE REQUEST UP FOR CONSIDERATION, THEN FOR ACTION THAT IS CONSIDERED

SUITABLE TO BE TAKEN.

FOURTH, THE PRIME MINISTER INFORMED PREMIER LONG BORET THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE GIVING AID TO THE FUNDS BOLSTERING CAMBODIAN RIEL CURRENCY.

FIFTH, THE PRIME MINISTER ASKED PREMIER LONG BORET ABOUT THE MILITARY STATUS OF THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE EXTENT OF ITS ADVANTAGES OR DISADVANTAGES. PREMIER LONG BORET REPLIED THAT GREAT CONFIDENCE IS FELT IN THE MILITARY POSITION BECAUSE GOVERNMENT FORCES HAVE GAINED ADVANTAGES ON ALL FRONTS AND IN ALL DIRECTIONS AT PRESENT. I ASKED HIM WHAT THE SITUATION OF PHNOM PENH IS AND WHETHER IT IS STILL IN DANGER, AND HE SAID THAT ADVANTAGES GAINED HAVE RESULTED IN DANGER THREATENING PHNOM PENH BEING AT A GREATER DISTANCE PROPORTIONATELY, AND THAT THOUGH IT IS STILL WITHIN THE RADIUS OF MISSILES OF THE OTHER SIDE FROM TWO POINTS IT CAN BE SAID FROM CONSIDERATION OF DEVELOPMENTS IN GENERAL THAT THE SITUATION IN REGARD TO PHNOM PENH IS IMPROVED ALSO. THE PRIME MINISTER NEXT ASKED WHETHER CAMBODIA HAS SENT ANY DELEGATION OR HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO INFORM AND EXPLAIN TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES THE POSITION OF THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT, AS WELL AS FACTS IN REGARD TO THE TRUE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA, IN ORDER TO ENABLE FOREIGN NATIONS TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND KNOWLEDGE OF CAMBODIA IN THE PRESENT DAY. PREMIER LONG BORET EXPLAINED THAT HIS GOVERN-MENT HAS APPOINTED AND SENT THREE DELEGATIONS TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN ASIA, IN AFRICA, AND IN LATIN AMERICA, THERE-FORE HE FEELS CONFIDENT THAT THE EXPLANATIONS GIVEN ON THE STATUS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ON THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA WILL OBTAIN RESULTS BENEFITTING HIS GOVERNMENT. THESE WERE THE MAIN SUBJECTS ON WHICH TALKS AND CONSULTATIONS UNCLASSIFIED

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WERE HELD.

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USIA-15 IO-14 SWF-02 AGR-20 EB-11 AID-20 CIEP-03 AF-10

ARA-16 COME-00 DRC-01 /187 W

R 191150Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6017
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
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REPORTER: IN WHAT WAY WILL THAILAND SUPPORT THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT IN MOTIONS REGARDING CAMBODIA?

CHARUNPHAN: THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WILL ENTRUST THAILAND'S DELEGATION TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITH THE POWER TO CONSIDER THE MATTER AND TO TAKE ACTION WHICH IS PROPER AND SUITABLE. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT NOW IN REGARD TO WHAT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN. IN OTHER WORDS, I CANNOT MAKE ANY STATEMENT THAT WOULD BE ACCURATE YET.

REPORTER: WHAT IS OUR PRINCIPLE?

CHARUNPHAN: IN PRINCIPLE IT MEANS THAT SINCE WE STILL RECOGNIZE THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT WE WILL GIVE IT SUPPORT IN A SUITABLE MANNER.

REPORTER: IN ADDITION TO THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED UNCLASSIFIED

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WHICH YOU HAVE JUST INFORMED US OF, WAS NAY REQUEST MADE FOR ADDITIONAL AID AND IN WHAT FORM?

CHARUNPHAN: THE MAIN FORM OF AID CAMBODIA NEEDS IS RICE, OR VARIOUS KINDS OF FOOD SUPPLIES, BUT THIS IS A MATTER WHICH CONCERNS THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE...PREMIER LONG BORET EXPRESSED THANKS TO US FOR THE AID AND FACILITIES

WE HAVE GIVEN IN REGARD TO PROVIDING RICE TO CAMBODIA, BUT HE DID NOT SAY OR EVEN MENTION THE AMOUNT OF RICE REQUIRED URING TALKS HELD TO DAY.

REPORTERS: WHAT ABOUT MILITARY AID?

CHARUNPHAN: NO CONSULTATIONS IN REGARD TO MILITARY AFFAIRS WERE HELD IN TALKS TODAY. SINCE YOU HAVE ASKED THIS QUESTION, I WILL INFORM YOU THAT SINCE THE LIST OF NAMES OF CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATIVES ACCOMPANYING PREMIER LONG BORET INCLUDED NAMES OF MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES ALSO, THE PRIME MINISTER INSTRUCTED THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO BE PRESENT AND TAKE PART IN THE MEETING ALSO. BUT NO CONSULTATIONS WHATSOEVER WERE HELD ON ANY MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

REPORTER: DID PREMIER LONG BORET SAY WHO THE REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER FACTIONS ARE WITH WHOM HIS GOVERNMENT WISHES TO HOLD TALKS?

CHARUNPHAN: YES, SOME MENTION WAS MADE OF THE SUBJECT. SINCE PRINCE SIHANOUK HAS REPLIED REJECTING THE PROPOSAL, AS I HAVE INFORMED YOU ALREADY, THE PRIME MINISTER ASKED, "EH* IF TALKS ARE HELD, WITH WHOM CAN THEY BE HELD?" PREMIER LONG BORET SAID HE HAS SEEN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON--MR. KHIEU SAMPHAN. BUT SINCE THERE HAS BEEN NO REACTION OR RESPONSE INDICATING THE READINESS TO HOLD TALKS ON THE PART OF ANYBODY AT PRESENT, NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED YET.

REPORTER: DID PREMIER LONG BORET SAY IF TALKS ARE HELD WHERE THE SITE OF THE TALKS WILL BE?

CHARUNPHAN: HE DID NOT MENTION THE MATTER AT ALL, UNCLASSIFIED

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NEITHER DID WE MENTION IT.

REPORTER: DID PREMIER LONG BORET COMMENT ON THE CHANGE OF AMERICAN PRESIDENT AND IN WHAT WAYS IT HAS AFFECTED HIS COUNTRY?

CHARUNPAHN: NO MENTION WHATSOEVER WAS MADE OF THE UNITED STATES.

REPORTER: SHOULD TALKS PROPOSED BE HELD, WILL THE ORIGINAL OFFER IN REGARD TO THE SITE FOR THE TALKS STILL STAND?

CHARUNPHAN: SHOULD A REQUEST BE MADE I THINK THAT THE

THAI GOVERNMENT WOULD RAISE NO OBJECTIONS. BUT SINCE NO RESPONSE HAS BEEN MADE YET TO THE PROPOSAL FOR TALKS TO BE HELD, NO MENTION HAS BEEN MADE OF THE SUBJECT YET.

REPORTER: WERE BORDER PROBLEMS BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION?

CHARUNPHAN: NOT AT ALL. THE 6 SUBJECTS DISCUSSED
TOOK ME A FEW MINUTES, ONLY A VERY SHORT TIME I INFORMED YOU OF THEM,
BECAUSE WE SPEAK THE SAME LANGUAGE. BUT
IN THE MEETING AND TALKS HELD, PREMIER LONG BORET SPOKE
IN CAMBODIAN AND EVERYTHING SAID ON BOTH SIDES HAD TO BE
TRANSLATED THROUGH INTERPRETERS, THUS TAKING TWICE AS
LONG. FOR INSTANCE, TALKS AND CONSULTATIONS WHICH COULD
BE FINISHED WITHIN ONE HOUR HAD TO TAKE AS LONG AS TWO HOURS.

REPORTER: ON OUR SIDE, WHO WERE PRESENT AND TAKING PART IN THE TALKS?

CHARUNPHAN: ON OUR SIDE I WAS PRESENT, AND THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, AND A DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (PRACHA KHUNAKASEM).

REPORTER: WASN'T THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER PRESENT ALSO?

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CHARUNPHAN: HE WAS NOT PRESENT.

REPORTER: DURING CONVERSATION WITH PREMIER LONG BORET DID HE TELL US WHAT RESULTS HE OBTAINED FROM HIS VISIT TO INDONESIA?

CHARUNPHAN: HE SAID THAT DURING HIS VISIT TO INDONESIA HE MADE STATEMENTS AND GAVE EXPLANATIONS LIKE THOSE HE HAS MADE TO US.

REPORTER: DIDN'T HE SAY WHAT ANSWERS WERE GIVEN HIM BY INDONESIAN LEADERS?

CHARUNPHAN: THEY SPOKE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRINCIPLES IN THE STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER THE LAST ASEAN CONFERENCE. BUT SINCE THAT WAS SOME TIME AGO, VARIOUS SITUATIONS MIGHT BE CHANGED NOW, THEREFORE MY VIEW IS THAT WE MUST WAIT AND SEE WHEN THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS CONVENED BECAUSE WHEN THAT TIME IS REACHED WE WILL HAVE TO HOLD CONSULTATIONS.

REPORTER: THEN CAN IT BE SUMMARIZED AND CONCLUDED

THAT IN PRINCIPLE WE STILL RECOGNIZE THE CAMBODIAN
GOVERNMENT HEADED BY LON NOL?
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USIA-15 IO-14 SWF-02 AGR-20 EB-11 AID-20 CIEP-03 AF-10

ARA-16 COME-00 DRC-01 /187 W ----- 122924

R 191220Z AUG 74 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6018 INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR AMEMBASSY MANILA AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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CHARUNPHAN: IN PRINCIPLE AT PRESENT WE RECOGNIZE ITS AMBASSADOR AND THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT.

REPORTER: IN THAT CASE, WILL OUR TREND IN THE UNITED NATIONS BE TO CONTINUE RECOGNIZING THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT,

CHARUNPHAN: WE RECOGNIZE THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT. THIS IS A FACT WHICH I HAVE STATED AND EXPLAINED TO THE PRESS THROUGHOUT.

REPORTER: WILL WE HOLD CONSULATIONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER ASEAN MEMBER NATIONS DURING THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY?

CHARUNPHAN: WITH THEM ALSO, BECAUSE WE HAVE SAID

ALREADY THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH ASEAN MEMBER NATIONS AND WITH OTHER FRIENDLY COUNTRIES WHICH ARE LIKE-MINDED IS THE PROCEDURE WE WILL FOLLOW IN CONFERENCES HELD EVERYWHERE. LINCLASSIFIED

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REPORTER: SINCE PRINCE SIHANOUK HAS REJECTED THE PROPOSAL MADE, WHAT METHOD CAN BE USED WHICH COULD LEAD TO TALKS BEING HELD?

CHARUNPHAN: I HAVE NOT SEEN THE REPLY OF PRINCE SIHANOUK THEREFORE I DON'T KNOW WHETHER HE LEFT THE DOOR OPEN FOR ANY ALTERNATIVE. BUT FROM WHAT PREMIER LONG BORET SAID IT SEEMS AS IF PRINCE SIHANOUK WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE PROPOSAL MADE.

REPORTER: WAS ANY MENTION MADE DURING TALKS ABOUT THE EXTENT OF TERRITORY SEIZED, SUCH AS WHICH SIDE HAS SEIZED MOST TERRITORY?

CHARUNPHAN: NO MENTION WAS MADE REGARDING THE EXTENT OF TERRITORY SEIZED; ONLY SOME MENTION WAS MADE REGARDING THE SEIZING OF SOME TOWNS. PREMIER LONG BORET SAID THAT THE MILITARY SITUATION IS IMPROVED AND THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS GAINED GREATER ADVANTAGES.

REPORTER: WAS ANY TALK HELD IN REGARD TO MILITARY AID, SUCH AS HELPING TRAIN CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT MILITARY FORCES?

CHARUNPHAN: NO TALKS ON MILITARY AFFAIRS WERE HELD TODAY, NEITHER WERE ANY CONSULTATIONS ON MILITARY AFFAIRS HELD AT ALL. AS I HAVE INFORMED YOU ALREADY, THE PRIME MINISTER INSTRUCTED THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING AND TALKS HELD TODAY, BUT IN REALITY NO CONSULTATIONS WHATSOEVER WERE HELD ON MILITARY AFFAIRS.

REPORTER: FTER HOLDING TALKS WITH PREMIER LONG BORET, WHAT IS YOUR VIEW OR FEELING REGARDING THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA?

CHARUNPHAN: FROM LISTENING TO HIM I FEEL THAT THE STATUS OF HIS GOVERNMENT IS IMPROVED BECAUSE IT HAS GAINED MILITARY ADVANTAGES AND IT HAS SHOWN ITS LARGE-HEARTEDNESS BY MAKING A PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD LEAD TO A RECONCILIATION AMONG ALL FACTIONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SINCE FIGHTING UNCLASSIFIED

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IS STILL CONTINUING THE OTHER SIDE MIGHT NOT FEEL
TRUST AND CONFIDENCE, NO AGREEMENT CAN BE
REACHED YET. BUT THAT IS CAMBODIA'S INTERNAL AFFAIR IN
WHICH WE CANNOT AND MUST NOT HANDLE OR INTERFERE IN ANY WAY.

REPORTER: WHAT IS YOUR VIEW REGARDING PRINCE SIHANOUK'S REFUSAL TO HOLD TALKS?

CHARUNPHAN: MY VIEW IS THAT IT CONCERNS PRINCE SIHANOUK AND HIS PERSONAL VIEWS, BECAUSE HUMAN BEINGS MUST HAVE SOMETHING OR SOME REASON THEY ADHERE TO. PRINCE SIHANOUK MUST HAVE SOME PERSONAL REASON FOR REFUSING TO HOLD TALKS; HE MOST PROBABLY ADHERES TO SOME REASON WHICH PREVENTS HIM FROM HOLDING TALKS. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD IF TALKS COULD BE HELD BECAUSE IT SHOULD LEAD TO PEACE, THAT IF A WAY OUT COULD BE FOUND SUCH AS IN THE FORM OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT, AS IN LAOS, IT MIGHT OBTAIN GOOD RESULTS. MAKING COMMENTS WHICH COORDINATE WITH THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVE OF MAKING A PROPOSAL IN ORDER TO LEAD TO RECONCILIATION, IN ORDER TO END THE FIGHTING AND RESTORE PEACE, ARE COMMENTS WHICH I FEEL DO NOT CONFLICT WITH THE DESIRE OF PREMIER LONG BORET.

REPORTER: DO WE STILL ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS STILL IN ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY IS THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT?

CHARUNPHAN: THAT IS ONE REASON ON THE PART OF THAILAND. FURTHERMORE, WE ADHERE TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT A GOVERNMENT IS THE LEGAL GOVERNMENT BECAUSE IT IS IN ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNTRY AND IT POSSESSES THE STRENGTH TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF ITS COUNTRY. WE RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR, WHO IS THE PERSON APPOINTED TO THAT POSITION BY THE PRESENT CHIEF OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT.

REPORTER: DID HE SAY WHO IS THE PERSON WHO IS REALLY IN POWER AFTER PRINCE SIHANOUK?

CHARUNPHAN: HE DID NOT SAY.

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REPORTER: DID PREMIER LONG BORET SAY THAT PRINCE SIHANOUK IS NOT THE REPRESENTATIVE OF EVERY AND ALL PEOPLE OF THAT OTHER FACTION?

CHARUNPHAN: HE MADE NO SUCH STATEMENT AT ALL.

END TEXT. KINTNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE

Draft Date: 19 AUG 1974 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BANGKO13389
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D740228-0954 From: BANGKOK Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740838/aaaabgeq.tel

Line Count: 495 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 10

Previous Channel Indicators: Previous Classification: n/a Previous Glassification: 1973
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BANGKOK 13304
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED

Review Authority: boyleja Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 24 JUN 2002 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a

Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2002 by reddocgw>, APPROVED <23 JAN 2003 by boyleja>

Review Markings: Declassified/Released

US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CHARUNPHAN ON LONG BORET'S VISIT TAGS: PFOR, CB, TH
To: STATE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005